



Allerdale Borough Council

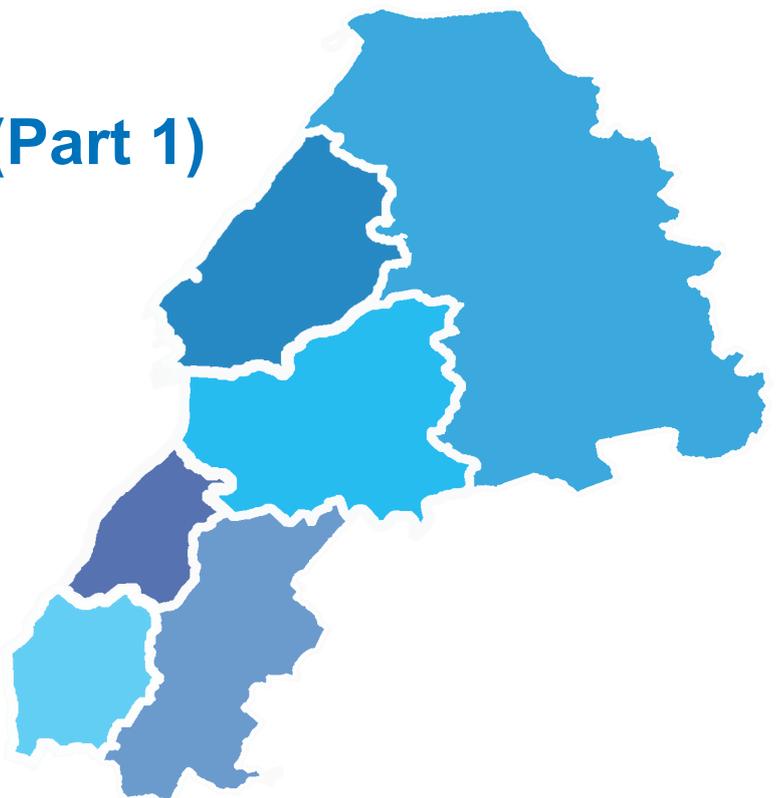


Allerdale Local Plan (Part 1)

Position Statement Main Matter 4:

Cross-boundary issues
in housing provision

January 2014



Matter 4 - Cross Boundary Issues in Housing Provision

Introduction

1. This Statement has been produced by Allerdale Borough Council to outline its response to the matters raised by the Inspector for the Hearings [ED3] into the Submitted Allerdale Local Plan (Part 1) Development Plan Document (DPD) [CD1].
2. These Statements form the main basis for the Council's submission to the Hearings. They relate to the elements of the DPD that have been raised by the Inspector as matters to be discussed. Where appropriate the Statements draw upon and cross-refer to the main sources of information used in the preparation of the DPD such as the outcomes of public consultation, the Sustainability Appraisal, the evidence base and the supporting Topic Papers. Core Document numbers are given where appropriate.

Position of the Council regarding Matter 4

3. The Council considers that the Allerdale Local Plan (Part 1) has a clear and robust strategy for addressing potential cross boundary issues in housing provision. Therefore the approach is considered to be sound.

Evidence: Cumbria Housing Market Areas

4. In 2006 the Cumbria Housing Group developed and agreed a set of 20 HMAs covering the whole of Cumbria. These were then used as the basis for Strategic Housing Market Assessments (SHMA) and remain the agreed basis for housing and planning policy across Cumbria.

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5. The update of the Duty to Cooperate Compliance Statement **[CD10a]** demonstrates that there is a county wide consensus on the Housing Market Areas that have been used as the basis for carrying out SHMA. As detailed in **CD10a** the Housing Market Areas that cover the Allerdale Local Plan Area largely conform to the local plan boundary except for a small area of the National Park which covers very sparsely populated areas.

Evidence: Population and Household Projections

6. The Cumbria Intelligence Observatory uses the POPGROUP demographic software tool to develop Cumbria wide population and household projections which incorporate various localised economic and demographic assumptions. These projections are consistently used as a starting point by local planning authorities across Cumbria to inform the SHMA, which provide an important source of evidence for the establishment of housing policies.
7. Allerdale and Copeland have a long history of working together and share a common economic strategy through the West Cumbria Economic Blueprint **[SD4]** (and its predecessor strategy, the Energy Coast Master Plan **[SD5]**). Accordingly a number of joint evidence base studies have been carried out including 'The Projections Paper: Projecting Employment and Housing Change' **[EB1]** which forms part of the evidence base used to establish the Local Plan housing requirement **[TP4 and TP4a]**. The data underpinning these forecasts as well as the population modelling tool, POPGROUP, are held and managed by Cumbria County Council in order for them to be consistently monitored and updated.

The Duty to Co-operate and Housing

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8. Allerdale's principal neighbours are Carlisle, Copeland and the Lake District National Park. Although there is a small portion of the boundary with Eden it is not considered significant enough to affect strategy as evidenced in **CD10a**.
9. The Statement of Compliance published in May 2013 with an update in October 2013 [**CD10 and CD10a**] sets out how the Council has met the Duty to Co-operate. It clearly establishes the cross boundary issues, where they exist, and what the policy approach adopted a result. Although the Council is satisfied that the Statement of Compliance provides sufficient detail of the Council's position regarding the Duty to Cooperate, representors to the Allerdale Local Plan (Part 1) [**CD1**] have suggested a lack of cooperation with relation to housing provision.
10. The Council's position and that of its neighbouring authorities is clear. Each Authority intends to fulfil its housing need within its own plan area. This is demonstrated in **CD10** and **CD10a**. It there is no evidence to suggest that in terms of potential land supply or infrastructure capacity this is an unrealistic assumption.

Carlisle

11. Carlisle published its preferred options document in July 2013. It sets out a preferred housing requirement along with site allocations to deliver that assessed need. All allocations are within the district boundaries, therefore Carlisle are confident that there is sufficient land to deliver the strategy.

Copeland

12. As set out above (paragraph 4) Allerdale and Copeland have a long history of working together and share a common economic strategy, together with a number

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of joint evidence base studies including the 'Projections Paper- Projecting Employment and Housing Change' **[EB1]** which both districts have used to inform the level of housing requirement.

13. The Copeland Core Strategy was found sound in September 2013 and formally adopted on 5 December 2013. In terms of housing growth Copeland has clearly stated that there is sufficient capacity within their plan area to deliver their adopted objectively assessed needs.

Lake District National Park

14. The Lake District National Park site allocation development plan document went through public examination in June 2013 and was found sound. The adoption of the LDNP Site Allocations DPD and earlier Core Strategy confirm that is no need for Allerdale to help deliver housing need arising in the National Park. **CD10a** confirms there are no outstanding cross boundary housing issues to be addressed during this plan period.
15. Policy S3 'Spatial Strategy and Growth' **[CD1]** highlights an additional mechanism to deliver housing in the more rurally sparse areas by emphasising the Lake District's Core Strategy Policy (CS18) whereby there is an opportunity for the housing need identified in the parishes of Boltons, Westward, Sebergham and Castle Sowerby to be delivered within specific adjoining parishes in the National Park provided the occupants of the new homes meet local policy requirements.
16. This opportunity for housing is over and above the provision of the full assessed need which will be catered for within the settlement hierarchy identified in the Allerdale Local Plan area.

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Housing for Gypsy and Travellers

17. The Cumbria Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (2013) **[DSE2]** was published in November 2013 and was used to inform Policy S11 'Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Sites' through re-evaluation of strategy and proposed modifications. This study was undertaken on behalf of Cumbria County Council, the six Cumbrian District Councils and the National Park Authority and therefore provides a shared cross boundary evidence base for meeting the housing need of the Gypsy Traveller community.
18. The study determined that across Cumbria there are a total of ten authorised Gypsy and Traveller sites which have a total of 132 pitches. Additionally, there are two private temporary sites (14 pitches), two private transit sites (37 pitches) and three private unauthorised sites (13 pitches). Across the County there are also three permanent Showperson yards (39 plots) and one unauthorised yard (two plots). This reveals an increase in the overall provision in Cumbria and a similar level of authorised sites.
19. At the time of the study in 2013 there were two private unauthorised sites within Allerdale, with a total of eight pitches. In addition, two private Showmen's yards were recorded, one authorised providing 24 plots and one unauthorised providing two plots. The assessment concluded that there is need for 10 permanent Gypsy and Traveller pitches for the Plan Period and a need for 21 Showperson's plots over the same period. A need for 11 transit pitches was also identified in Allerdale.
20. The provision of housing for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople, has clear cross boundary implications, however, each authority has confidence that it can meet the identified need where the need arises and within the boundaries of their Plan Area.

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